

**Kessler, Ellen**

**From:** Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC [Stephanie.Strength@wdc.usda.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 28, 2009 11:08 AM  
**To:** Lilley, Bliss; Collins, Carly  
**Subject:** FW: CAPX2020

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**From:** caroline.lexa@ingenixconsulting.com [mailto:caroline.lexa@ingenixconsulting.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 23, 2009 3:30 PM  
**To:** Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC  
**Subject:** CAPX2020

Dear Stephanie,

- I-211-001** | I am a citizen who is concerned about whether or not the CAPX2020 project makes sense. I do not want to see tax dollars used to support this project for the following reasons:
- I-211-002** | **Conservation, local generation and local transmission can solve any local reliability issues at a much lower cost to ratepayers** without damaging the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife Refuge, Scenic Byways and other protected natural resources that would be impaired by the La Crosse Project and without providing transmission from distant coal plants;
- I-211-003** | **Updated forecasts of electric peak demand do not support the need for the CapX2020** ultra high voltage power line projects, including the La Crosse Project
- I-211-004** | The CapX2020 La Crosse ultra high voltage power line will cause environmental harm -- including visual impacts in scenic corridors, health risks due to electro-magnetic fields, decline in property values, loss of prime agricultural land, risks to rare and endangered species, fragmentation of habitat in a national wildlife refuge, and bird mortality along the Mississippi Flyway.
- I-211-005** | Taxpayers should not finance any portion of the the CapX2020 La Crosse Project through the USDA Rural Utilities Service.

Please consider my families concerns when discussing this project!

Kind Regards,  
Caroline, Michael, Inga and Vladimir Lexa

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**I-211-002**

Your comment has been noted. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will describe, in detail, project purpose and need. The justification document which has been accepted by the RUS is the Alternative Evaluation study which is available at:  
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>.

**I-211-003**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to human and livestock health and safety with regard to EMF, visual resources, socioeconomic issues including property values, rare species, and agricultural resources will all be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

**I-211-004**

Your comment has been noted. Dairyland Power Cooperative, one of the CapX2020 utilities, has requested financial assistance from USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS), for Dairyland's anticipated 11 percent ownership interest in the proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kilovolt transmission line project. RUS has determined that its funding of Dairyland's ownership interest is a federal action and therefore subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). RUS is the lead agency for both NEPA and Section 106 review.